

Redstone Rocket

VOL. 53 No. 11

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March 17, 2004

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Digging in to protect work force

Construction under way
in Sparkman parking lot

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

So, why has the Sparkman Center parking lot been in such a mess lately?

The simple answer is security. Concrete barricades in place since the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on this nation were only a temporary fix. The permanent solution is removing parking spaces, plantings and dumpsters within 33 feet of the office buildings.

"The requirement is based on force protection initiatives under the (Defense Department) minimum antiterrorism standards for build-

ings," Lee Riddle, project manager in the construction branch at Directorate of Public Works, said.

An electronic gate is being added to permit parking near the buildings. "So we're gaining back 196 parking spaces that will be inside a controlled area," Sparkman complex manager Edna Dye said.

This additional parking will be for handicapped employees who work at the complex and government vehicles that are assigned to organizations in the complex. "And that'll help with the parking here," Dye said. The handicapped employees will have to go to the Sparkman Management Office to fill out the proper paperwork to gain access to the controlled parking area.

See **Construction** on page 11



Photo by Skip Vaughn

TOUCHUP WORK— William Evans of APAC cleans dirt from the curb at the Sparkman Center.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

DOWN AND DIRTY— Construction workers add top soil in front of Sparkman building 5300.

Letters to the Editor

Employ better hiring program

Summer time will soon be here and students will be out on summer break from school. I would like to see Redstone Civilian Personnel Operations Center and any other hiring agencies take the initiative and print an article (well in advance) on when and where students should start applying for summer jobs at Redstone.

Summer job hiring should be done on a fair hiring system with rules and guidance so that every military dependent is given the opportunity for a summer job.

A year ago I was shocked to hear the system that was used for summer hiring at Redstone. An e-mail was circulated through military units and other government offices at Redstone asking employees if they had students that were interested in a summer job to submit their names by e-mail. Since that year Redstone had received so many names and time was a factor, they decided to throw the students' names in a hat and pull names from there. I was shocked. I couldn't believe that they used that procedure for the hiring.

Another statement that I've heard is if a student was hired last year for the summer program that student has priority and he or she will certainly be hired again if they apply. If that statement is correct then it is certainly not fair for the rest of the students who will lose once again the opportunity to work because of a returning summer hire.

The Army states that they take care of their Soldiers and their families. I would like to challenge Redstone Arsenal to take care of our active duty dependents in the summer hiring program. Let's make it a priority that all active duty dependents get a fair opportunity for summer jobs at Redstone. After all, Redstone exists because of our active duty military.

I would like to see a good hiring system established for the summer program at Redstone Arsenal. The hiring program procedures and announcement should be widely announced so that everybody is aware about the summer program. It

See **Hiring** on page 3

Give smokers a break

To the individual who composed the letter to the editor "Fired up about smoking" (March 10 edition): I have never been one of those individuals who complain, but I have a small problem with the smoking policy. For all these years now, I have complied with the policy of not smoking in buildings. Be it 100 degrees or below freezing, I have always gone outside. I have used the covered doorways in the past to smoke, only when it was raining (I don't like to get wet anymore than anyone else does). The only problem with the policy is that it does not tell me what I may do, only what I cannot do. A policy that is absolute, against an activity that is legal, without a remedy for special circumstances is both unfair and unjust.

There is discussion in DoD Policy about accommodation with a "covered

shelter when sufficient funds are available." This tells me that they know that they are on shaky ground; and that if a class action suit were brought, that some accommodation would have to be made. I just hope that a policy is not enacted against an activity that the author of the "Fired up about smoking" letter does, because then he will at least understand what discrimination is. The only thing any smoker asks for is due consideration. Thankfully I don't work in the Sparkman Center so I don't have to put up with this individual. Lastly unlike the author of the aforementioned letter, I will proudly place my name on what I write.

Charles W. Ham Jr.
chief, Strength Management
& Personnel Operations
Military Personnel Division

Soldiers' support strikes chord

As the Army Community Service Exceptional Family Member Program manager, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the 33 Soldiers from OMEMS and MEDDAC who volunteered at the Special Olympics Bowling Tournament held Feb. 26 at the Plamor Lanes.

Your support, interaction and enthusiasm shared with more than 110 children and 85 adults was very heartwarming. The Soldiers of Redstone Arsenal once again demonstrated their commitment to the

Army values by performing a tremendous act of civil service, which is so appreciated by me and the parents of these children and young adults. You all contributed to the huge success of the event as evidenced by the wide smiles seen throughout the day by the participating athletes!

Again, my sincere thanks for bringing so many of our athletes a day of delight.

Natalie A. Taylor
EFMP manager,
Army Community Service

An open lane random survey

What do you think of the movie 'The Passion of the Christ'?

By **KELLEY LANE**
Staff writer
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net



Chief Ernest Thomas
Navy

"I think it's a great opportunity to witness for the Lord."

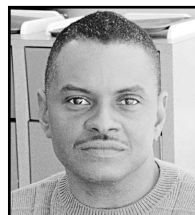
Debbie Bolk
DoD civilian

"I have not seen it yet, but some of my co-workers have. They are saying that it is so moving that it is not really a movie — it's a message. I do plan on going to see it this weekend."



1st Sgt. Cesar Acevedo
Birmingham Recruiting Company

"There is violence every day, but when it becomes public we have issues with it."



Nate Bocclair
NASA

"I plan to see the movie with my wife. My son has seen it and it was a really touching experience for him. I think it brought him closer to the church the next day because he was into the Word that was being spoken."

Getting to know you

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Name: Michael Horry

Job: Team leader for Sverdrup Jacobs, contractor to Director of Information Management

Where do you call home? Georgetown, S.C.

What do you like about your job?

I like working with people and I like the role that we're playing in moving Redstone Arsenal into the single DOIM con-



cept. We're taking control of a lot of people's information systems where they have their own information system department and we're consolidating that into one Director of Information Management.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I go to church (First Missionary Baptist Church) and play golf.

What are your goals?

Goal is to be the person that God wants me to be.

Quote of the week

'We're lost but we are making good time.'
— **Yogi Berra**

Redstone Rocket

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Redstone housing residents asked to visit survey

Your opinions sought before contract move

GARRISON RELEASE

Redstone Arsenal family housing residents will receive a housing satisfaction survey within the next two weeks. The survey is also being distributed to other Army installations participating in the Residential Community Initiative family housing privatization program.

Here is an overview of what the RCI program is all about, and how you can help make a difference by completing the survey:

- RCI is an Army program designed to enhance the quality-of-life for servicemembers and their families by improving the existing on-post family housing conditions, eliminating any housing shortages and improving neighborhood "amenities" (i.e., playgrounds, outdoor athletic courts, walking/running trails, etc.). In this program, family housing will be privatized. This means that the operation and maintenance of family housing will be turned over to a contractor. The Army will provide oversight of the selected contractor.

- The goal of the program is to positively impact quality-of-life as a resident at Redstone Arsenal. This should translate into more frequent renovations,

perhaps the construction of new houses at Redstone, and more neighborhood amenities. Under this program, your Basic Allowance for Housing will be provided to the contractor to cover the cost of your rent and utilities. Of course, you will have to become more energy conscience.

- Your input through this survey will be used to help make better decisions on how to spend limited housing dollars and will help guide the future commercial partners in providing the services and the facilities that are important to you. Your answers are strictly confidential, and your frank responses are needed. We are not tabulating any personal data; and your survey in no way identifies you or the residence you occupy.

During this whole process, your housing area mayor may be called on many times. A representative will visit Redstone on April 2 to explain the survey process. The mayors will be invited to this briefing. If you have suggestions, concerns, questions or comments, make sure you get them to him or her.

When you receive your survey, do not throw it away. Your opinion does count. Complete the survey and return it as instructed. The postage is already paid so it will cost you nothing. Should you have any questions, call Giannina Brown at 842-0422.

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents.

March 6: An individual reported that a customer returning a U-Haul trailer became disorderly when returning it to the Tire Shop. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

March 6: An individual was issued a violation notice after she was observed in the Post Exchange selecting several items, concealing them and then exiting without rendering proper payment. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

March 7: An individual stopped at a safety checkpoint on Redeye Road was found to be operating his motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol and driving with a suspended driver's license. He was issued two violation notices and detained at the Provost Marshal Office until his blood alcohol level reached the legal limit.

March 9: An individual reported that someone removed his post decal from the windshield of his vehicle while it was parked and unattended at the Post Exchange parking area.

March 10: Two individuals were observed selecting several items at the Post Exchange and exiting without ren-



dering proper payment. The items were recovered and the matter is being investigated by the Provost Marshal Office.

March 11: A Soldier was reported as being AWOL from his Redstone Arsenal unit. Investigation continues by his unit.

March 11: A Soldier reported that someone removed a government-owned lawn mower from his quarters on Skinner Drive. The lawn mower was left unsecured and unattended. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

March 11: A Soldier reported that someone withdrew \$160 from his Redstone Federal Credit Union account without permission. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Traffic accidents reported: 10 without injuries, none with injuries.

Violation notices issued: 1 driving under the influence, 103 speeding, 1 operating a motor vehicle with suspended driver's license, 1 operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, 1 no proof of insurance, 2 expired driver's license, 6 failure to obey a traffic control device, 1 following too close, 4 parking violation and 1 larceny.

■ Eligible students have chance for summer jobs

Hiring

continued from page 2

should be posted in the Redstone Rocket so that it can reach as many people as possible not only by e-mail, since some Soldiers are TDY or in Korea and the family will be unaware of the e-mail message. Let's get it straight, Redstone.

Name withheld by request

Editor's note: The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center provided the following response. "In 1997, federal regulations were changed and the summer program hiring authority was changed from a competitive service to the excepted service appointment. Although full competi-

tion is no longer required, we agree with the writer that it is preferable to select new summer hires from job announcements. A notice about this year's summer program is in this week's Rocket.

"The 2004 Team Redstone summer hire job announcements will be posted at www.cpol.army.mil. These announcements will give all eligible and interested students throughout our community, both military and civilian, an opportunity to be considered for summer employment at Redstone Arsenal. The announcements will be used to fill about 100 GS-1 through GS-4 vacancies on a temporary basis this summer (May until September). The announcements are open for acceptance of applications from eligible students from March 17-23. We expect that several hundred students will apply for these opportunities."

Summer hiring announcements go online

About 100 jobs to be filled

Announcements will be opened March 17-23 to fill positions at Team Redstone this summer.

There will be three announcements: office automation clerk, GS-326-1-4; general clerk, GS-326-1 through 4; and engineering aide, GS-802-1 through 4.

"There are about 100 Team Redstone summer hire positions that will be filled this summer from these announcements," Don Dixon, director of Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, said. "We expect several hundred students to apply for these positions."

In order to be considered, applicants must be students who are currently enrolled in school. Applications will be done through Resumix and will involve submission of an electronic resume plus self-nominations for the specific announcements in which the students are interested in applying. Announcements

will be posted at www.cpol.army.mil.

For new applicants and others desiring assistance, a step-by-step guide to applying for summer positions will be posted on the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center's web page at www.redstone.army.mil/cpo.

"It is extremely important that students follow all the instructions in the announcements and submit complete resumes plus self-nominations to be considered," Angela Williams, human resources specialist, said.

The announcements require the students to document specific information in their resumes to include the fact that they are students in good standing, grade point averages, specific courses completed, and other information. Applicants that fail to follow the instructions and guidance will not be considered. Questions can be directed to your servicing CPAC civilian personnel specialists or to one of the following Redstone CPAC employees: Williams 842-6784, Penny Thomas 313-4791, Julie Lumpkins 313-4834 or Angela Speegle 876-8821.

Week of events puts work force on track for future

Local agencies team up on technology forum

"Technology Forum for the Future" is the theme for this year's Technological Excellence for Aviation, Missiles and Space Week, March 29 through April 1, sponsored by the Huntsville Association of Technical Societies. With three tracks of Technology, Education and Work Force Development, the sponsors promise "something for everyone."

The Redstone work force has always been encouraged to attend the event, which typically includes conferences on several different topics, panel discussions and exhibits. It's an event that brings students, educators, business leaders and government professionals together for a week of collaboration and planning for the work force of the future.

The education track will bring together educational institutions, government agencies and industry for dialogue on the need for science, technology, engineering and mathematics education reform. This track also includes an educational technology tour and the announcement of the winners of more than \$1 million in grant money. The work force development track offers attendees the opportunity to discuss attracting and retaining a work force qualified to meet the demands of the future. The first Women in Defense Conference will be included in this track. The technology track will feature the annual Southeastern Software Engineering Conference and, for the first time, a Homeland Security conference.

Other events include the Association of Unmanned Vehicle Systems International

Unmanned Systems Symposium; the American Helicopter Society Airworthiness Conference; the Education, Employment and Technology Conference; and the Homeland Security Conference.

Helping managers come to grips with the problem of attracting young people to the government work force, and then keeping them there, will be the topic of the Work Force Development Track of the Education, Employment and Technology Conference.

Tim Grey, director of human resources, pointed out that he would like to see managers attend the track, since they really need the information that will be presented if they are to stay in tune with the needs and desires of today's younger workers.

"We have made a concerted effort to appeal to a broad audience ... to private sector and government managers," he said.

Included in the track will be presentations on lean work practices in a non-manufacturing environment, a future work force panel and a job fair.

The future work force panel will be made up of people just out of college who have chosen to work either in the private sector or for government agencies in the Huntsville area. They will talk about what initially attracted them to the area, what's keeping them here, and what they think would attract others.

"The panel of young folks is particularly important for managers to hear," Grey said. "The Chamber of Commerce has done a benchmark study that shows Huntsville and Madison County are losing the young work force, ages 25 to 40. That's a critical age group. Not only are we not able to bring them in, but they are

leaving the area." He added that it's vital that employers in this area learn how to recruit and retain this age group in order to remain competitive.

Recruiting young people won't be the sole focus of the conference. There will also be presentations on ways to revitalize and retrain the current work force in order to make it capable to meet the challenges of the future.

As part of the TEAMS Week this year, five major federal agencies in the Huntsville area will join together to offer \$1.3 million in grant money to college and university teams for the purpose of developing technology needed for current and future aerospace and defense efforts.

Giselle Wilson of the Space and Missile Defense Command oversees the program, and said she has received 49 proposals this year, more than either of the last two years.

"We've had proposals come in from all over the country," she said.

Proposals must be in accordance with published guidelines and should support the needs stated within the guidelines, she said. Technology areas for which proposals are requested include self-diagnostic and self healing systems for spacecraft, rotary wing aircraft and missile systems; cognitive and adaptive behavior for missile systems and unmanned vehicles; miniature kill vehicles; storable fuels for hypersonic propulsion; and new propulsion solutions for future generation spacecraft, missiles and unmanned aerial vehicles.

The agencies that have pooled money for the grants include Marshall Space Flight Center, SMDC, the Program Executive Office for Air Space and Missile

See Conference on page 5

Regional software engineers converge on Huntsville

Third annual conferees discuss new technology

The third annual Southeastern Software Engineering Conference is March 29-31 at the Von Braun Center.

The conference, with the theme "Technologies That Will Change the World," will provide a forum and venue for software engineers, programmers and computer scientists to discuss the latest developments in software engineering and acquisition, software process improvement, digital combat and network-centric warfare, and futuristic computing technologies. The conference will feature three days of invited and refereed presentations, seminars, a doctoral symposium, industrial exhibits, a job fair and a book fair. The cost is \$125.

Conference registration and program details can be found at the web site <http://www.ndia-tvc.org/SESEC/>.

The conference is among many activities that will be held during Technological Excellence in Aviation, Missiles and Space or TEAMS Week. For complete information on all TEAMS Week conferences, events and activities see <http://www.teamsworld.org/>.

Sponsors

The conference is co-sponsored by the Tennessee Valley Chapter of the National Defense Industrial Association and the Carnegie Mellon Software Engineering Institute as well as a number of other academic institutions and corporations. In addition to academic and corporate sponsors, the following federal agencies and organizations are participating: Research Development and Engineering Command, Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, Software Engineering Directorate; Space and Missile Defense Command, Information Science and Technology Directorate; Missile Defense Agency and Marshall Space Flight Center.

It will feature the following seminars,

sessions and special attractions: Seminar I, Wireless Security; Seminar II, CMMI for Small Business; Session I, Technologies That Will Change the World; Session II.a, Key Trends and Critical Changes in Software Acquisition; Session II.b, PhD Seminar; Session III, Digital Combat: The Evolution of Network-Centric Warfare; Session IV, CMMI: Impacting the Future of Your Enterprise; Special Event, Digital Combat Exercise; and Attraction, Barnes & Noble Book Fair.

Keynote speakers

Scheduled speakers include Dr. James Larus, senior researcher and assistant director, Microsoft Research; Claude Bolton Jr., assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology/Army acquisition executive; and consultant Bryan Hurd, a board certified antiterrorism officer, certified information systems security professional and certified computer crime investigator.

Seminars and events

Here's a synopsis of the conference activities:

- CMMI for Small Business Seminar — This seminar will report on the accomplishments and the lessons learned from the CMMI for small business pilot program.

- Wireless Security Seminar — This seminar will demonstrate the vulnerabilities of current IEEE 802.11b standards in security while showing a new protocol to defend such shortcomings.

- Digital Combat Exercise — This exercise will educate computer professionals, managers and the public on the offensive and defensive digital combat aspects of computer network operations.

- Barnes & Noble Book Fair — The book fair will feature author-signing sessions.

TEAMS is considered Huntsville's premier technical symposium and exposition. Association with the week makes the engineering conference a high value event for software professionals in the region.

Women in Defense sponsors first conference

TEAMS Week continues to expand this year with the first leadership conference sponsored by the Women in Defense Tennessee Valley Chapter.

The theme of this inaugural conference, scheduled April 1 at the Von Braun Center, is "Can You Hear Us Now?" It is designed to provide a unique forum for attendees to interact with military and industry leaders, with a goal of promoting professional development of women through the exchange of thoughts and ideas.

"My goal for the Tennessee Valley Chapter of WID is to promote women as leaders in the defense community, and I envision this conference as a significant resource for achieving this goal," Tara Ragan, president of the Tennessee Valley Chapter, said. "The purpose in focusing primarily on women's leadership development is based on WID's belief that increasing the number and quality of women leaders in the defense community exponentially improves this nation's ability to innovate, collaborate and improve our defensive capability in an increasingly dangerous and uncertain world."

The conference will feature presentations on a wide range of topics of interest

to defense, security and aerospace workers and will include a panel discussion on national security.

Featured speakers include Jan Menker, president of the WID national organization; Col. Heidi Brown, commander 31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade; Alison Fortier, vice president and deputy managing director, Lockheed Martin Missile Defense Programs; and Dr. Patricia Sanders, Ballistic Missile Defense System executive officer, Missile Defense Agency.

Cost for the conference is \$50, which includes a luncheon. Keynote speaker for the luncheon is Rear Adm. Kathleen Paige, program manager, Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense Systems.

Women in Defense is a National Security Organization affiliated with the National Defense Industrial Association and provides its members with opportunities for professional development and networking and cultivates the advancement of women in defense and security professions.

To register for the conference or for more information call J.P. Tardy 882-1234 or visit <http://www.ndia-tvc.org/wid-tvc/wid-conference.htm>.

Fund-raisers on tap for AER campaign



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

YELLOW RIBBONS— Master Sgt. Timothy Carlile, 59th Ordnance Brigade, along with Army Community Service volunteers Inger Frye and George Moore show their support for the Soldiers and the Army Emergency Relief campaign with magnetic yellow ribbons. ACS is selling the ribbons for \$5 to benefit AER.

The Army Emergency Relief campaign office provided the following calendar of events.

- Magnetic yellow ribbons for sale for \$5 through May 15 at Army Community Service, sponsored by ACS volunteers. Also on sale today and March 24 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Sparkman Cafeteria, building 5302. For information call Inger Frye or Mary Breeden 876-5397.
- Stuffed "Patriot Bears" for sale through May 15 at Resource Management Directorate, building 5300. For information call Linda Manning 876-1706.
- Patriotic teddy bears and pins for sale through May 15 at the Sparkman Center, sponsored by Research Development and Engineering Center. For information call Janet Martin 313-1996.
- Doughnut sale, Thursday at the Sparkman Center, sponsored by Short Range Air Defense Project Office. For

information call Maj. Morris Bodrick 876-1832.

- Chili cookoff sale, March 30 at Military Personnel Office, building 3494. For information call Barbara Moudy 842-2717.

- Bake sale, March 30 from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at building 5300, sponsored by the Lead AMC Integration Support Office. For information call Mary Ann Caissie 955-8859.

- Hot dog lunch, March 31 at the Sparkman Complex, sponsored by SHORAD Project Office. For information call Bodrick 876-1832.

- Boxed lunch prepared by Sparkman Cafeteria, April 14 at building 5400, room S-142, sponsored by Technical Management Directorate, Research Development and Engineering Center. For information call Dorothy May 842-8391.

- Car wash/hot dog sale, April 15 at MILPO. For information call Moudy 842-2717.

- Golf tournament four-person scramble, April 23 at 7:30 a.m. at Redstone Golf Course, sponsored by the Integrated Materiel Management Center. For information call Sgt. 1st Class Wilbur Williams or Sgt. 1st Class Roy Mixon 876-5399.

- Second annual Charity Car Show, April 24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the parade field by the bowling center, sponsored by Fox Army Health Center. For information call Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Perkins 955-8888, ext. 1106.

- Car wash/hot dog sale, May 13 at MILPO. For information call Moudy 842-2717.



Photo by Kim Mason

GIFT BASKETS— Clockwise from left Jeff Tanner and Steve Noomaw make a gift purchase from Acquisition Center workers Laura Beck, Sarah Kilpatrick and Kristy Lyon. Volunteers are selling Mother's Day and Easter baskets along with handmade bags from the Huntsville Rehabilitation Center. All proceeds go to Army Emergency Relief.

Workers can end career early under special buyout

Application window slated to close today

CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ADVISORY CENTER RELEASE

AMCOM has received 223 special restructuring buyouts allocations for fiscal 2004, including 88 for Research Development and Engineering Command.

These Feb. 20 allocations are the Army's share of 7,722 buyouts for FY '04, based on a Defense Department memorandum, National Security Personnel System-Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay and Voluntary Early Retirement Authority policy, dated last Dec. 30.

The Aviation and Missile Command and RDECOM are now positioned to announce their allocated special restructuring buyout positions for the receipt of VERA/VSIP applications. The window of opportunity is open to optional retirement eligibles, early retirement eligibles, and to employees interested in resigning.

In order to apply, you must be an AMCOM employee and your position must be on the list for restructuring. If you are not in one of the specified positions, you are not eligible to apply under this

special restructuring VSIP announcement. This is the first announcement for the fiscal '04 special restructuring VSIP.

You must submit the a Statement of Understanding, one of the three VSIP pay agreements (lump sum payment, biweekly or six month installment payment), plus either a completed retirement application (to retire) or a hard copy Resignation Request for Personnel Action (to resign).

Retirement application forms can be found on the web at the following: <https://www.abc.army.mil/Information/ABCRetirement/Forms/Forms.asp>. A resignation request can be prepared by your administrative office and a hard copy printed. An electronic request for personnel action should not be submitted until a VSIP is approved. If you are not in the area of consideration or your application is incomplete, it will either be rejected or returned without action.

The application window opened Monday and is to close today at 3 p.m. Employees approved for Voluntary Early Retirement Authority/Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay must be off the rolls by May 3. For more information call Aleck Hernandez 313-0158, Valerie Calhoun 955-7984 or Theresa Falcetano 876-1620.

Exchange service pursues 'The Passion of the Christ'

Popular movie hard to acquire

AAFES RELEASE

DALLAS — As "The Passion of the Christ" continues to draw strong numbers at the box office of civilian continental U.S. theaters, America's military audience continues to wait for an opportunity to see the film.

The overwhelming commercial success of the film is proving to be tough news for military audiences, according to the Army and Air Force Exchange Service.

"The demand is outpacing copies of the film," Richard Sheff, AAFES vice president of food and theater, said.

Since "The Passion of the Christ" opened, AAFES has been actively pursu-

ing acquisition of the movie. Unfortunately, due to the film's commercial success, the exchange service has been unable to acquire prints for military audiences.

"The civilian market has a lock on the film today," Sheff said. "It is our hope that Newmarket Films will either produce additional prints or allow AAFES to obtain existing prints as soon as possible."

Either way, AAFES officials are sure that "The Passion of the Christ" will eventually make it to the military audience.

"Because of the film's success it is difficult for AAFES to say when 'The Passion' will be available," Sheff said. "However, I would like to assure servicemembers that as soon as the distributor releases prints to AAFES, 'Reel Time Theater' marquees will read Now Showing, 'The Passion of the Christ.'"

■ Annual technology forum tries to widen appeal

Conference

continued from page 4

Defense, the Research Development and Engineering Center, and the Ground-based Midcourse Defense Joint Program Office.

Wilson estimated that 7 to 10 grants will be awarded this year, based on the pool of money and the average cost of the proposals she has received. And she pointed out that means up to 10 opportunities to expose college students to the experience of working in the federal environment, as well as giving the agencies a chance to share new ideas.

"What's happened is the agencies are

working together, working in different technology areas, and they get fresh, new ideas from the universities. It also gives the students exposure to and encourages them to pursue government employment," she said.

Grants awarded under this program are monitored, unlike some other programs, Wilson said. In some cases, students are actually mentored by and work with federal employee teams.

Grant winners for this year will be announced at the Technology Dinner, scheduled for the evening of March 29.

TEAMS 2004 will be held at the Von Braun Center from March 29 through April 1. More information on the week can be obtained at www.teamsweek.org <<http://www.teamsweek.org>>.

Army launches contract for air defense system

Joint effort with Marines triggers common weapon

It was cause for celebration at Raytheon.

The company held a ribbon cutting ceremony March 15 after winning a \$127 million contract to develop and field the Surface Launched Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile system. The Aviation and Missile Command awarded the contract which began March 1.

SLAMRAAM will be fielded in 2008. The Army has joined with the Marine Corps' Complementary Low Altitude Weapons Systems and the Common Aviation Command

and Control System programs to develop this joint, common weapon system and a common command and control capability.

The Army's Short Range Air Defense Project Office, under the Program Executive Officer for Air, Space and Missile Defense, will manage the contract. Expertise within the command's technical and acquisition community was used throughout the contract development and negotiation process and will continue to be used in program execution.

SLAMRAAM is a beyond-line-of-sight air defense system designed to counter enemy cruise missiles, unmanned aerial vehicles, low altitude rotary wing and fixed wing aircraft. It will be

deployed in support of the unit of action while task organized at the unit of employment level, providing an air and missile defense standoff capability beyond the range of the current short range weapon systems. It will be able to destroy aerial targets masked by terrain or clutter in reduced visibility environments.

The system employs the joint service AMRAAM weapon mounted on a Humvee launcher and a new Integrated Fire Control Station that is netted to the Army's existing Sentinel radar, the Army's future Joint Land Attack Cruise Missile Defense Elevated Netted Sensor, the Patriot radar and the Marine Corps' Multi-Role Radar System.

"The SLAMRAAM contract represents a significant step toward attaining a cruise missile defense capability in support of our Soldiers/Marines and our nation," product manager Lt. Col. Scott Shifrin said. "The contract will complete the System Design and Demonstration that encompasses the development, fabrication, integration and testing of the SLAMRAAM system."

The integrated fire control station evolved from the Raytheon-developed Fire Distribution Center and uses "pit stop" technology developed on the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense system.

Raytheon's Integrated Defense Systems will execute the program from a new office in Huntsville. Development work will be accomplished at Raytheon facilities

located in New England, at Kongsberg Defence and Aerospace, located in Norway, and at the Boeing Company, Quantum Research International, Madison Research Corporation, and the ASMD Battle Lab, all located in Huntsville.

The system originated as an upgrade to current air defense systems to counter emerging new threats. The SHORAD Project Office, the Acquisition Center and the Legal Office developed and released a competitive Request for Proposals in May 2003 and Raytheon submitted its proposal in July. Raytheon was selected for "alpha" contract negotiations and the Army Acquisition Executive and Vice Chief of Staff of the Army approved the SLAMRAAM acquisition program in September.

Initially the program was to be a stand-alone Army program. However, during proposal evaluation it became apparent that with minor modifications the SLAMRAAM could satisfy both Army and Marine Corps requirements. The services formed a joint integrated product team that melded requirements and refined the acquisition strategy.

"Having one piece of common equipment that is logistically supportable will give both services the capability of being fully integrated with the other on the battlefield," Lt. Col. Michael Bruno, the SHORAD Marine Corps liaison, said.

Editor's note: This article was based on a release from the Short Range Air Defense Project Office.



Courtesy photo

OUT OF SIGHT— Surface Launched Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile is a beyond-line-of-sight air defense system.



Photo by Ron Garrett

Bingo!

The International Services Council of Huntsville sponsored bingo for 20 international Soldiers on March 7 at the Fern Bell Recreation Center in Huntsville. The event was for international Soldiers attending training in the Huntsville area and at Redstone. The council members bought gifts to give as prizes to the bingo winners. From left are Egyptian Capt. Kareem Reda, Gertrude Powell of the International Services Council and Egyptian Capt. Ahmed Bendary.

Training day

Environment right for military environmental training

New warrant officers get practical basics

By KIM GILLESPIE
For the Rocket

“What will get you fired!” is why Chief Warrant Officer Max Bennett, operations officer for the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School, Warrant Officer Training Division, schedules a day of environmental training for the Warrant Officer Basic Course. Bennett says this facetiously, but he is also serious about what the training means.

“Issues like the environment and safety are key to their jobs as communications or missile technicians because it’s about keeping themselves and their Soldiers from getting hurt. If these warrant officers don’t make the right decisions regarding health, safety and the environment, it can be grounds for their removal,” he said.

It was Bennett’s suggestion that the Garrison’s Office of Environment and Safety, and WOTD join forces to educate new warrant officers about the environ-

mental issues and responsibilities they may face in their new positions. The idea was embraced by the Garrison’s Directorate of Environmental and Safety.

“Environmental work is a priority for the Department of the Army, and what we are seeing right now is a cultural change in how these issues are handled,” said Mike Moore, Garrison Safety Office director. “Leadership wants the boots on the ground to have the knowledge and tools to make the decisions and changes that are necessary.”

The course emphasizes how the Garrison works with tenant organizations not only as a natural partnership, but one with far-reaching benefits.

“Some processes and ways of doing business may differ from installation to installation, but the requirements and regulations are going to be the same,” said Danny Dunn, Natural Resources Division chief. “We can also give them an idea about what offices and personnel would be appropriate points of contact for various types of work.”

During the daylong presentation, Garrison personnel presented information



Photo by Kim Gillespie

TAKING NOTES— Warrant Officer Michael Gilbert checks his notes during a recent environmental and safety presentation.

ranging from overviews of the garrison’s environment and safety programs to specifics such as hazardous materials and hazardous waste, endangered species, wetlands, cultural resource, and laws and regulations such as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. The presentation was a combination of slides, videos, examples and even a hazard communication pop quiz.

There were specific examples, such as citing the most common locations for environmental violations (motor pools and storage buildings and rooms). The most important emphasized: “Documentation. Document everything,” said Craig Northridge, installation compliance chief.

The day of environmental training is ever-evolving, and WOTD can tailor the content to prepare these officers for their upcoming assignments, Bennett said. “We are providing training for ordnance warrant officers, and the Chief of Ordnance has given us guidance for military occupational skills of 910A (ammunition), 918B (communications and electronics maintenance) and 918D (missile maintenance) technicians to ensure the training they are receiving is relevant and up-to-date. The students receive common core training, which includes policies and standards that any Soldier in a supervisory position should have up-to-date information on. Transformations and changes are happening so quickly we need to constantly assess what is taught for each Basic or Advanced Warrant Officers Course.”

Bennett for example studied the training that the current Basic students had received at Fort Rucker in the Warrant Officer Candidate School. He also looked at the training topics proposed by the

Directorate of Environment and Safety. “For this class I noticed that the Garrison Environment and Safety Directorate had risk management scheduled. These officers had just had risk management training two weeks ago so I asked that they replace risk management with another relevant environmental class because it would just be repetitious,” he said.

The warrant officers indicated that the environmental information was not only interesting but would also prove useful in the future.

“My degree is in environmental science, so I really enjoyed the presentations,” Warrant Officer Joey Mitchell said.

Warrant Officer Michael Gilbert said he found the examples cited and the descriptions of responsibilities useful. “My next assignment is Fort Stewart (Ga.), and I know I will probably be addressing some of the same garrison issues discussed today right away or at least at some point in the future,” he said.

Dunn concurred with this assessment, noting that planning, projects and exercises can come to a halt because of issues involving endangered species and wetlands.

The warrant officers suggested topics for future environmental training. They saw a need for information or examples regarding hazardous material transportation, deployment checklists, arms inspector checklists, and exercises. The officers also wanted to know more about the specific duties of environmental, safety and hazardous material officers — positions they might be called upon to fill.

“This kind of feedback is terrific because it helps us make each training session more relevant to their jobs and the Army,” Dunn said.

Workshop focuses on sharing logistics knowledge

New networked system takes enterprise approach

LOGISTICS SUPPORT ACTIVITY RELEASE

About 800 people attended the Worldwide Logistics Training Workshop, March 8-12 at the Sparkman Center.

The Logistics Support Activity sponsored the event. Representatives from Army headquarters — Col. Tom Rich, Col. Larry Thomas, Shue-Jane Thompson and Maj. Rich Kreuscher — briefed the logistic community on how the community can participate and benefit in the Army's Battle Command Knowledge System. BCKS is a networked system of Structured Professional Forums providing agile dominant learning, teaching and Battle Command capabilities for high performing and adaptive commander/leader teams.

How the Army shares its most relevant and up-to-date knowledge will be changed fundamentally by BCKS. It gives participants an area to collaborate, coordinate activities and keep track of what is going on in their areas of interest and expertise. It is managed by functional area experts with assistance of community facilitators and content managers.

Articles, documents, and dog tags con-

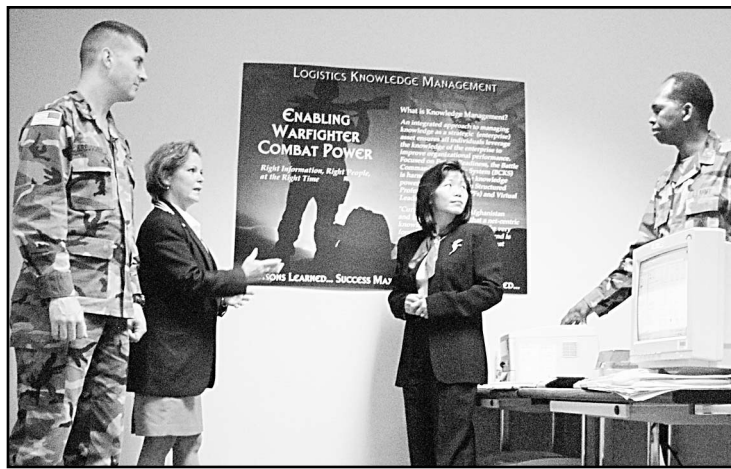


Photo by Skip Vaughn

READY TO SUPPORT— Worldwide Logistics Training Workshop participants include, from left, Army logistics automation officer Maj. Rich Kreuscher, LOGSA's Belinda Terry, Shue-Jane Thompson of the Army's strategic partnering division and Col. Larry Thomas, the division chief.

taining personal information are cross-referenced into many topics, so that they can be accessed from many different sources. These professional discussions will lead to quicker turn around of lessons learned, doctrine, training and leader development products. BCKS should result in improved warfighter and unit effectiveness.

The system grew upon a former Chief of Staff of the Army initiative on leader development. Since its inception, the system has been briefed to and endorsed by

senior leaders across the Army. Corps and division commanders have said that they need a fully capable and mature system now. BCKS capabilities support the Army focus areas and enable knowledge fusion.

The program is in its first year of development and has potential to evolve with the Army environment.

"The end users of BCKS are from both of the warfighter and institution communities," Thomas, chief of the Army's strategic partnering division, said. "They are the driving force for shaping the BCKS end state."

"The logistic community has worked closely with the BCKS program and has endeavored to be an early adopter and pioneer of this program," Rich said.

The program takes an enterprise approach to create a close-knit social network to link the knowledge centers and subject matter experts to create, validate, share, deliver and archive knowledge needed for supporting the Army and joint operations. The concept of knowledge sharing is not new to the Army but BCKS enables near instantaneous knowledge



Courtesy photo

Play lion

Redstone worker Gary Gee of Quality Research portrays Richard the Lionheart in "The Lion of Winter," James Goldman's play which opens March 25 in Huntsville's Renaissance Theatre. For ticket information, call 536-3117 or visit www.renaissancetheatre.net.

sharing Armywide.

The logistics community should have licensing issues worked out by this fall. Initial content and user base will be geared toward supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.



Shawn Harris/Photo Lab

Retirement launch

Reba Seals, deputy project manager for the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense Project Office, receives her retirement certificate Feb. 26 from Col. Charles Driessnack, the THAAD project manager, after a 36-year government career.

Research center wins laboratory of year award

Army's 15 labs judged annually

By STEVE SMITH
For the Rocket

The Research Development and Engineering Center has again won the top Army research and development award in the large laboratory category. RDEC has won first or second in the large laboratory category every year for the past four years.

In the Army Research and Development Laboratory of the Year award program all 15 Army laboratories are evaluated on vision, strategy and plan; technical accomplishments and impact, including breakthroughs, quick fixes for troops, and transition of technology; and resource input.

The award is based on a number of achievements, including major technical and management accomplishments. RDEC's major technical accomplishment was the Low Cost Precision Kill missile, which provides a lighter, lower cost option needed to kill most battlefield targets. LCPK also fills a critical aviation need by being more accurate than the unguided 2.75" rocket and less costly than Hellfire.

Advanced capability

LCPK's advanced capability, achieved using distributed aperture seeker and solid state gyros, provided increased accuracy, reduced cost per kill (less than \$10,000 for precision strike), increased stowed kills, and reduced logistics burden. RDEC's critical LCPK technology developments included strap-down semi-active laser seekers and MicroElectro-Mechanical inertial devices, critical to achieving performance and affordability goals.

LCPK is a breakthrough in modularity — it is the Army's first truly modular missile system. RDEC developed the initial LCPK concept; proved the feasibility through component demonstrations; teamed with industry to design, develop and integrate alternate prototypes through flight testing to demonstrate accuracies of less than one meter; and teamed with program executive offices, program man-

agers and industry to ensure that real world constraints (weight, volume, platform integration and affordability) drove the technology and demonstrated solutions.

Prototype integration facility

The Prototype Integration Facility RDEC's major management accomplishment, rapidly provides tomorrow's technology for today's warfighter. To achieve RDEC's vision of "Weapon System Technology for Swift Decisive Victory Without Casualties," and in response to institutional barriers, the PIF implemented an innovative, highly responsive "inclusive collaborative" teaming process to quickly develop and rapidly exploit technology to create "diode-like" asymmetries. RDEC and its government/industry team repeatedly demonstrated that technology concepts could be rapidly transitioned into fielded solutions in days, weeks or months, rather than years.

The PIF is a government-owned, government-operated on-site program management, engineering, fabrication and integration facility, which significantly reduces acquisition lead time via rapid project initiation, is results driven (technical, cost, and schedule) and 100 percent customer funded, and has a very flexible program management (turnkey or partial support during any phase) and effective government teaming through partnering and effective industry teaming through rapid acquisition and prototyping contract (10 year for \$1.1 billion).

The RDL awards program was established in 1975 to honor Army research and development labs that have made outstanding contributions in science and technology. Claude Bolton Jr., Army acquisition executive and assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, and Lt. Gen. John Caldwell Jr., military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, presented the award to Dr. Bill McCorkle, director of RDEC, during a recent award ceremony held in Crystal City, Va.

Editor's note: Steve Smith is senior technical adviser to the director at Research Development and Engineering Center.



Photo by Don Dennis

Support representatives

AMCOM logistics assistance representatives meet in Tikrit, Iraq. From left are David Hoyle, Robert Blanchette, Joe Mateo-Sullivan, Bill Carter, Lt. Col. Tom McCarthy, Edward Barnes and Wayne Gwynne. Since the beginning of hostilities in the region, the Aviation and Missile Command has deployed 180 LARs to Kuwait and Iraq. They serve alongside the warfighters and face the same field conditions.

■ Electronic gate to allow parking in controlled area

Construction

continued from page 1

Riddle outlined the first phase of the project which began Jan. 20. "The main items under construction are removing all parking outside of the required 10 meter offset which is 33 feet; removing plantings and low-ground cover within that 10 meter offset; and the removal of dumpster enclosures and their relocation (outside the 10 meters)," he said.

The first phase, which represents about half of the force protection requirements, represents construction from the north side of building 5301 around to the south side of building 5307. "A future proposed second phase will begin at the east side of 5307 and continue around to the north side of 5302," Riddle said.

Force protection isn't the only goal, according to Dye.

"This project is not only to let parking inside the controlled area," she said. "It's to complete the area so it'll look better. We can get rid of the yellow barricades and get the landscaping back to looking nice again. Force protection is a driver but in order to meet the force protection you've still got to do the landscaping because this is permanent. You might as well go on and fix it and fix it right. It'll be a real advantage for the handicapped employees (who work in the complex), that'll be a plus."

The 285-day initial phase, from buildings 5301 to 5307, should be finished by late October. A contract for \$638,820 was awarded last Sept. 22 to Chugach Support Services Inc., the post's job order contractor. The project was developed by the Garrison's Directorate of Public Works and awarded through the Acquisition Center using funding for the global war on terrorism. The second phase, from buildings 5307 to 5302, has not yet been contracted.

"I know the Sparkman work force and

visitors on the west side of the complex the last few days have noticed the throughway closures that have affected traffic flows," Riddle said. "These areas are an effort to minimize the effects of a vehicle having a direct path into a building. Initially they will be an inconvenience but hopefully over time everybody will learn a new means of ingress and egress."

"Similar construction will be occurring throughout the facility as different phases are constructed. One thing we had to do by means of those throughway closures was to provide alternate paths of ingress for proper fire and emergency accessibility," he added.

Rickey Moore, facilities specialist in the Sparkman Management Office, sees benefits down the road from the ongoing construction. "It's going to be easier to control parking and access to the buildings," he said. "And of course it's going to help the handicapped parking also."

"We appreciate everybody being patient with this project which will benefit us all in the long run," Dye said. "What we're after is safety. We want the people to be safe."

Besides the force protection work, another construction project will be going on at the same time. The Installation Information Infrastructure Modernization Program, an ongoing effort to upgrade Redstone's data and voice communications system, will block off additional parking spaces from March 22 through June 4 for construction.

So, it might be a good idea to do like Dye last week and bring some tennis shoes if you expect to have to walk through mud going to and from the Sparkman Center.

"It's going to be good," she said of the future benefits while walking outside building 5300. "When you tear stuff up, it's an inconvenience. But it's going to be worth it in the long run."

Win or lose

Bravo prepares to defend volleyball championship

Bulldogs enter year with all new roster

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
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Theresa Arnold remembers how Bravo won the post volleyball championship last year.

"I would say dedication and hard work, because they wanted to play and wanted to win," said Arnold, returning to coach this year's team along with DeVonna Hollis. "They would be out there some nights and weekends practicing when we weren't there. And the team got along really well."

She hopes the work ethic and chemistry carry over to this year's team which will have an entirely new roster. All of last year's Bulldogs have moved on.

"I would say we have a good chance (to repeat as champion)," Arnold said. "We always have real motivated Soldiers. I can't really say till we get out there and see what the competition is. But we're

always confident we'll do well."

Arnold, 26, played volleyball four years at Hogan High in Vallejo, Calif. She arrived two years ago from Korea.

"Most likely we're just both going to coach (and not play)," she said of fellow coach Hollis. "We have a lot that want to play."

"We're actually starting to put the team together (last) week. Then we're going to start practicing (this) week."

A volleyball meeting for representatives from all the units was scheduled for this morning at 10 at Pagano Gym. That will determine the schedule for the pre-season tournament, regular season and postseason playoffs.

Last June 4, Bravo beat Headquarters & Alpha 25-27, 25-9, 15-11 for the post championship at Pagano. Bravo, which battled through the losers bracket, had forced a second match by beating the Gators 25-20, 25-13, 25-16.

Cristy McIntosh was the Bulldogs' coach and Arnold assisted. Bravo (16-5), seeded fourth in the postseason tournament, advanced to the final by beating top-seeded Delta 25-12, 25-21.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

JUST PRACTICING— Members of Bravo's volleyball team practice last year en route to their post championship.

Holy Family School Eagles win independent tournament

Several of the 7th and 8th graders have parents who work on post

The Holy Family School seventh and eighth grade boys' basketball team won the Huntsville Independent School League tournament championship by beating Huntsville Christian Academy 49-19.

Several members of the Eagles have parents who work at Redstone. They include Charles Camp, whose mother,

Claire, works in the Garrison; Blair Gaines, son of contractor and assistant coach Chris; Homer Reynolds III, whose parents, Homer and Lori, work at Aviation and Missile Command; and William Thompson, whose parents, Frederick and Lourdes, work in Program Executive Office for Aviation.

Eagles' teammates Zachary Folk and William Thompson were named to the all-tournament team. The Eagles finished their season at 18-0.



Photo by Larry Winters

CHAMPION EAGLES— Kneeling from left are Charles Camp, Jackson Cha Cha, Blair Gaines, Dante Dorsey and Shawn Burris. Standing are Zachary Folk, assistant coach Michael Scruggs, Christopher Wagner, James Orillion, Phillip-Michael Scruggs, coach Charlie Rucker, Homer Reynolds III, assistant coach Homer Reynolds, Rex Bailey, assistant coach Chris Gaines and William Thompson.

To your health

Fad diets usually only lighten your wallet

Dietitian prescribes safe ways to reduce

By **KELLEY LANE**
Staff writer
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With summer dreams of bathing suits and fun in the sun fast approaching, diet season is in high gear. Everywhere you turn there is a pill or a program promising to have you in bikini form in no time. The options when choosing a diet plan seem endless. The trick is in figuring out what is safe and effective.

Rosemary Gates, dietitian at Fox Army Health Center, says common sense and realistic expectations are keys to separating the fact from fad. She cautions would-be dieters to consider the healthiness of popular diets which have their basis in food group exclusion.

"Each particular food group has unique nutrients that other food groups are not able to provide," she says. "You're going to be missing out on something."

While studies have shown that they produce tangible results in the short term, not a lot is known about their long-term

effects. "Anybody can do something radically different for the short term," Gates says. "When they get tired of doing that radical thing, they gravitate back to what they were doing before. After three to six months people start caving in. The jury is still out on the long-term effects."

When choosing a weight loss plan, also consider the motivation of the creators. If supplements or prepackaged food are touted as necessary for success, the motivation may lie more in their bottom line than yours. Often, the only thing lighter at the end of such endeavors is your wallet.

"Usually that's a flag that they may not have the interests of the individual at heart. They're trying to make money," Gates says. "They make it sound like in order for the diet to be successful, you have to have their products. If you have to purchase all these products, then there is something wrong. That's an indication, to me, that the plan is more profit motivated than health motivated."

Beware the quick fix. If a diet or supplement promises astounding results in a short time, be wary. While dieters may

start off with a bang, dropping about five pounds in the first week, they shouldn't expect to maintain that rate. Gates attributes that initial drop, in part, to water weight loss. "After that, a good rate of weight loss is about one to two pounds a week. It means you're actually burning body fat," she says. "If you continue to lose four or five pounds a week, you're losing muscle mass in addition to body fat. That's not good."

Keeping your expectations realistic can not only help you weed out the "crash diets," but can also help the most discouraged of dieters stick to a plan that is working, albeit slowly.

Pay attention to what your body is telling you. If a diet makes you sick, then common sense says it is not for you. Being overly tired is not a normal part of weight loss.

"If you're not feeling well, then it's not working," Gates says. "If you're eating an adequate amount of food you shouldn't feel any weaker. It's an indicator that you're not getting enough calories, protein or something."

Consulting your doctor or a dietitian when beginning a weight loss program is always



Photo by Kelley Lane

WEIGHT MEASURE— A dietitian, like Rosemary Gates, right, can help dieters find a healthy way to scale down.

smart, particularly if you have other health factors such as diabetes, kidney problems or gout.

"If you have any kind of medical problems to start out with, you should consult your doctor," Gates says. "If you're excluding something that would be part of a normal diet, there may be other ways to get the vitamins you need and you may not be aware of them. It's good to consult with someone who may be more knowledgeable than you."

If dieting on your own is not producing results, consult a professional. Together you can

make lifestyle changes to not only lose the extra pounds, but to keep them off.

Active duty, retired military and their dependents can make an appointment with Gates at Fox Army Health Center by calling 955-8888, ext. 1026.

"There are lots of radical diets out there," Gates says. "Slowly make changes that are going to be things that you can integrate into your lifestyle for the rest of your life so that you're not dropping weight and gaining weight and going back on a diet again."

New layout in store for post commissary

Reset makeover set March 22-24

DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY RELEASE

In true military style, commissary customers can show their ability to survive. Survive change, that is. The time for change has come to the Redstone Arsenal commissary.

“We’ll be closed for a store reset starting March 22-24,” store director Sandra Edinger said. The commissary will close at 5 p.m. March 21 for the complete shelving change-out, cleaning and store reset. It will be closed March 22-23 and will reopen at 8 a.m. March 24 with its new look.

The Defense Commissary Agency is in a continual process of changing how product is placed on commissary shelves during store “resets.” The goal is also to give commissaries worldwide a more customer-friendly product flow and a layout that is as consistent as possible from location to location.

“Although we have to take into consideration that no two commissaries are constructed exactly alike, a customer-friendly product flow means dog food will be next to pet supplies instead of the charcoal, peanut butter is best found next to the jam, and you shouldn’t have to cruise three different aisles to find all your cleaning products,” Steve Sones, chief of DeCA’s store reset and planogram team, said. “It’s a simple matter of making the commissary layout more sensible by ‘resetting’ the store.”

DeCA is intent on making the commissary shopping experience faster and easier – making the commissary the place to shop every day, not just on pay day. One of the priorities is to help busy, active-duty shoppers make a quick run through their commissary and get home more quickly. So, baby food, snacks and other grab-and-go items are moved to the front of the aisles. Ideally, customers won’t

have to search the entire store to find a few necessary items.

“The whole idea, in a nutshell, is to get convenience into the shopping experience,” Sones said. Consistency is also part of the reset equation. “Why shouldn’t you be able to go to different commissaries and find basically the same layout?”

“We try not to inconvenience the customers while resetting stores,” said Sones, “but we often have to close the store for a day, sometimes two, in order to tear down the shelving and move it, widen the aisles, and restock. But we think the customers will find they have a better shopping experience when we reopen.”

Customer resistance to change can be the biggest challenge in resetting the stores, according to Sones. “Our customers usually like the new layout once they get used to it and acceptance is improving. In 2002 we only had 11 customer complaints on resets at the headquarters level.” Sales increases always follow a store reset and that’s an indication that the user-friendly product flow is a good change.

To make changes easier for customers to follow, stores should have aisle layout maps available as well as generic aisle/item locators on their web pages. Store web pages are under the locations link at www.commissaries.com along with store hours, contact information, store news and special customer service features.

Approximately 35 store resets are scheduled for this year. And the headquarters reset team has begun moving European commissaries over to the standard store layout.

“Customers will find products, wherever feasible, in the same locations whether they are shopping in the United States or overseas,” Sones said. “Customers may also notice changes in smaller sections of their commissary from time to time in response to marketplace changes as well as item selection, but that’s not something that will usually cause customer inconvenience.”

‘Our customers usually like the new layout once they get used to it and acceptance is improving.’

— Steve Sones
Defense Commissary Agency

Army drives home mandatory rules for motorcyclists

Riders required to take course

By KIM GILLESPIE
For the Rocket

Motorcyclists may be "heading for the highway" and "looking for adventure," but those heading for a military installation need to be "Born to be Safe."

The Defense Department has instructed all military installations to actively enforce DoD Traffic Safety Program's motorcycle safety requirements. These include completion of the motorcycle safety course and mandatory personal protective equipment to include goggles, face shield, or special glass (such as sunglasses designed for extreme sports); Department of Transportation approved helmets; garment visibility and sturdy footwear.

Garrison Safety Office members point out that motorcycle fatalities have



Photo by Kim Gillespie

SAFETY CHECK— Garrison safety specialist Keith Coates notes the required Department of Transportation approval on a motorcycle helmet that also features a face shield.

increased dramatically over the past several years and the Secretary of Defense has specifically directed military installations to reduce motorcycle fatalities. Additionally, the Army Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, Maj. Gen. Larry Lusk, is also tracking how installations are doing with motorcycle safety.

For the first time, funding has been received at installations to cover the cost of military and civilian employees attending the required motorcycle safety training course.

"By providing funding for the course, there is no excuse for Redstone personnel not to complete this training," Keith Coates, safety specialist with the Garrison Safety Office, said.

Coates, who manages the motorcycle safety training program, emphasizes that riders who do not complete the training will not be issued a vehicle decal and will be prohibited from riding on the Arsenal. The Vehicle and Badging Office will only issue decals to those who have been certified by Coates as having completed the training.

Contractor personnel who wish to ride on post are also required to have the safety training course, but are not funded through the DoD program.

"Contractors pay a \$75 fee to cover the cost of the course. We encourage companies with employees on the Arsenal to cover this expense since we feel it also falls under their safety program," Coates said. Contractors that pay the \$75 fee are offered the choice of attending weekend courses, while DoD-funded attendees

must attend on a weekday.

Motorcyclists who have completed a motorcycle training safety program through another installation do not have to repeat the course for Redstone, but they must provide the safety office with proof of completion for Coates to authorize the Vehicle and Badging Office to issue a vehicle decal.

The motorcycle safety training course for Redstone is conducted by Rocket Harley-Davidson on Highway 20 in Madison. Rocket Harley-Davidson will even furnish a motorcycle for training.

"Motorcycles are provided as a convenience. However, this training is not to teach beginners how to ride — it is safety training for experienced riders," Coates said. The course covers strategies such as cornering, braking and emergency maneuvering skills. Riders must bring a valid driver license with motorcycle endorsement to the course, and if they ride their own bike, it must be street legal and pass an inspection by the trainer. Successful completion of the course may also qualify the rider for discounts on motorcycle insurance.

See **Safety** on page 17

Voting assistance officers receive marching orders

Workshop covers rules and duties

It's a right that all Americans should use.

Vote: Make your voice be heard. That was the idea behind a Unit Voting Officer Workshop, March 3 at Heiser Hall. The guest speaker was Paul Mendez from the Department of Defense Voting Assistance Office. He provided instruction and discussed such areas as registering to vote, completion of the federal post card, absentee ballot, the federal write-in absentee ballot, state requirements and more.

The workshop, required for voting assistance officers, also included information and discussion on what a voting assistance officer can or cannot do. Voting

assistance officers are prohibited from encouraging a voter to vote for a particular candidate or party. The primary purpose of the voting assistance officer is to encourage people to vote and inform them that voting is a civic responsibility. It is the voting assistance officer's responsibility to inform the perspective voter about the procedures to follow in order to vote. It is the voter's responsibility to obtain information about the candidates, issues and political party.

The DoD Voting Information Center provides information on candidates. Citizens interested in such information may

call 1-800-438-vote (8683) or 703-588-1343.

The Federal Voting Assistance Program is a DoD program established by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Act and Executive Order 12642 dated June 8, 1988. The Uniformed Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act covers members of the U. S. uniformed services, members of the U.S. Merchant

Marine, family members and U.S. citizens residing outside of the U.S.

"It's Your Future, Vote for it" is the DoD voting slogan for 2004-05. In this year's election, citizens will vote for the

next U.S. president and vice president, 34 senators, 435 representatives and 13 governors.

Joe Winston is the senior voting assistance officer and Lewis Spencer is the assistant senior voting assistant officer for Redstone Arsenal. Voting assistant officers throughout the installation, to include tenant activities, have been designated this responsibility; and 24 people attended the workshop.

The Voting Assistance Guide for 2004-05 is available to any member of the uniformed service, family member and U.S. citizens. A special voting information section has been established in the Military Personnel Office, building 3494. Persons needing assistance can contact their voting assistance officer or call Winston or Spencer at 842-2418 or 842-4211.

'It's Your Future, Vote for it' is the DoD voting slogan for 2004-05.

Women recognized for 'inspiring hope and possibility'

Team Redstone celebrates Women's History Month

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY RELEASE

The Team Redstone Women's History Program is March 23 at 9:30 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium with the theme "Women Inspiring Hope and Possibility."

In 1978, members of the Sonoma County California Commission on the Status of Women initiated the first National Women's History Week and sponsored programs for local schools. This was a community effort to encourage the study of women's history and structure a continuing discovery of

women's past. Subsequently, similar efforts spread to other communities across the country.

In 1982, Women's History Week was first proclaimed a national observance as a result of a joint congressional resolution proposing that such a week be held inclusive in March 8 which is International Women's Day. This joint congressional resolution was co-sponsored by Sen. Orrin Hatch and then Rep. Barbara Mikulski, now a senator from Maryland. In 1983, the joint resolution designating women's history week requested that the president issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

The resolution became law with the signature of the president; and communities across the country were informed about Women's History Week. Subsequent resolutions were issued each year designating National Women's History Week until March 1987.

It soon became evident that not all women's history could be condensed into one week's observance. By joint resolution of Congress, March 1987 was designated as Women's History Month. Since then the National Women's History Month resolution has been approved annually with broad based, bipartisan support in both the House and Senate.

The idea of celebrating the unique, multicultural history of women in the

U.S. has captured the imaginations of teachers, librarians, community groups, women's organizations and thousands of individuals throughout the nation. Each year programs and activities in schools and communities have become more extensive as information and program ideas have been developed and shared.

The popularity of women's history celebrations has sparked new interest in uncovering women's forgotten heritage. Women's history month observances have become more than a call to acknowledge the outstanding American women whose names we do not know, but it also has become a vehicle to pay homage to the nameless women who have shaped our collective past.

Time now to visit Redstone Tax Assistance Center

Free service available to military community

By Capt. FRANK ULMER
Tax assistance officer

If you have not yet filed your 2003 tax return, now is a great time to take advantage of the free tax preparation and e-filing service offered by the Redstone Arsenal Tax Assistance Center. In addition to getting your taxes done for free, you may also win great prizes donated by Morale, Welfare and Recreation and the commissary.

MWR has provided a supply of MWR bucks to be distributed as random door prizes to Tax Center clients. These MWR bucks are redeemable at many MWR sponsored activities, including the golf course, the Firehouse Pub, the bowling center and the outdoor recreation center.

The commissary and its suppliers have also provided prizes to be awarded in a monthly drawing at the Tax Center. Clients are eligible to register for these drawings when they come to have their taxes prepared. The February drawing awarded commissary gift certificates to five lucky winners. Another prize will be awarded at the end of March.

The filing deadline for tax returns is April

15, but there is no reason to wait until the last minute, especially when the Tax Center is able to prepare and e-file your tax return for free. All you have to do is call 842-1040 to schedule an appointment, or, if you prefer, you can visit during walk-in hours Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-7 p.m. Remember, items you need to bring when you come to the Tax Center include W-2s, 1099s and other tax forms, social security cards, a voided check and last year's tax return. For a complete list of all items you should consider bringing to your appointment, visit the web site at <http://www.redstone.army.mil/legal/taxcenter.html>.

If you have overpaid the IRS, you should receive your refund within two weeks after we e-file your return. If you owe money to the IRS, we can still e-file your return, and you must send your payment to the IRS by April 15. In addition to preparing federal tax returns, we also prepare state returns for all 50 states. Eligible clients are active duty military personnel and their dependents and military retirees and their dependents. Reservists and National Guard members are also eligible if they are on active duty orders for more than 29 days. The Tax Center is in building 3489, just off Ajax Road.

■ Post motorcycle riders must take safety course

Safety

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Riders scheduled for a class but find they cannot attend should call Coates and cancel their reservation.

"Classes are limited to 12 rides, so we must have notice if you cannot attend so someone else does not have to wait for their vehicle decal," he said. "The Army is also responsible for the cost of the class if someone does not attend, so unless you again confirm your planned attendance the day prior to training, we will cancel your reservation."

Not only is the requirement for motorcycle safety training being enforced, but so are the requirements for personnel protective equipment. Helmets must be Department of Transportation approved.

Goggles or face shields (properly attached) are mandatory and must be impact or shatter resistant, while leather boots or over the ankle shoes are also recommended. Long sleeved

shirts or jackets, long pants and full-fingered gloves or mittens designed for motorcycle use are also must-haves for safety purposes.

"Garment visibility is especially important. A motorcyclist can be a very good defensive driver, but if a motorist cannot clearly see a rider in day or night, it may prove fatal," Coates said. "Bright colors should be worn during the day and a reflective upper garment during the night. I recommend that if you don't have a jacket with the reflective material made into it, you should purchase an inexpensive reflective vest or cross-band like what our soldiers wear for PT and running."

The Garrison Safety Office is working with the Provost Marshal Office and the Vehicle and Badging Office to ensure all motorcycle safety requirements are met. Any Team Redstone employees that need to enroll for the motorcycle safety training course or have questions regarding motorcycle safety requirements should call Coates at 876-3383 or 313-3294.

Sports & Recreation

Baseball bus trip

Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring a baseball bus trip to see the St. Louis Cardinals and the Atlanta Braves in their only regular season series in Atlanta. This three-day trip will leave Redstone Aug. 13 at 11 a.m. and return Aug. 15 about 7 p.m. Cost is \$190 per person based on double occupancy. This includes two nights at the Embassy Suites Galleria, bus fare, game tickets for that Friday night and Saturday game, snacks and beverages on the bus. For reservations call Charlie Urban 955-7662. A \$100 per person deposit is due by April 1 to hold your reservation. Space is limited so do not delay.

Fishing bait

Buy your fishing bait — minnows, night crawlers and red wigglers — at the One Stop, building 3234. "Crickets will be available soon," the Post Exchange said in a prepared release. "Tip: Keep bait cool after purchasing."

Conferences & Meetings

Toastmasters

Toastmasters can help improve your communication and leadership skills by conducting meetings, giving prepared

speeches or briefings, giving impromptu speeches and offering constructive evaluations. This is an approved government training opportunity. A form DD-1556 is all you need to sign up to start earning your Continuous Learning Points. To find a club near you, go to <http://www.toastmasters.org/find/>. If you have trouble contacting a particular club, contact Chad Daly at Chad.Daly@smdc.army.mil or Toastmasters International at the following address: info@toastmasters.org.

Officers association

The Military Officers Association of America will hold its informal monthly breakfast March 27 at 8 a.m. at Victoria's Cafe, 7540 Memorial Parkway southwest. The monthly luncheon meeting is March 31 at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club with guest speaker City Councilmember Sandra Moon. All active, retired and former officers, their spouses and widows, of all branches of service are invited. For more information, call retired Chief Warrant Officer Aniceto Bagley 852-7973.

General services expo

General Services Administration's Southeast Sunbelt Region invites you to Orlando, Fla., May 11-13 to experience Expo 2004. Admission is free to all civilian and military personnel. Attend more than 250 hours of professional procurement-oriented training, with CEU credit. Visit more than 700 commercial partners, across 300,000 square feet, exhibiting their prod-

ucts and services — all available through GSA schedules. GSA is offering free meeting rooms to federal activities as part of the expo May 10, 11 and 13, 2004. For details check the web site <http://expo.gsa.gov> or call 1-888-272-5565. To schedule a meeting, contact Barbara Petersen at Barbara.Petersen@gsa.gov.

Resource manager institute

The American Society of Military Comptrollers invites the AMCOM community to the 2004 Mini-Professional Development Institute Seminar titled "Designing your Destiny," March 31 and April 1 at Bob Jones Auditorium. The seminar leader is Lee Milteer, president of Lee Milteer Inc., career development strategists. Participants will attend one day of training. Bus transportation to and from lunch at Trinity Methodist Center will be provided from the auditorium. The luncheon program will be a workshop on dressing for success and promote the theme "Design Your Tomorrow." Some spring fashions for unisex will be presented by Connie Broadway, visual manager for Dillard's. You do not have to be a member of ASMC or work in the comptroller field in order to attend. The cost of the seminar is \$65 for ASMC members and \$75 for non-members. Payment will be by IMPAC government purchase credit card only. Reserve a space by having a government purchase cardholder call either Linda Caswell 955-0687, Betty Jones 955-0688 or fax 955-8332.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting Thursday morning from 6:30-7:30 in the Twickenham Room at the Officers and Civilians Club. For more information, call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Jean Rose 313-1659.

Workers compensation training

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center's Workers' Compensation Office, in conjunction with the Department of Defense, Civilian Personnel Management Service, will offer training March 23 in the Diane Campbell Recreation Center to all Team Redstone managers, supervisors and organizational chiefs. Jeff Karl of DoD's Civilian Personnel Management Service in Jacksonville, Fla., will conduct sessions 9-11 a.m. and 1:30-3:30 p.m. "The purpose of this training is to make sure that



Photo by Kim Mason

Sliding by

Tynara McLean, 3, enjoys the sunshine Friday afternoon at the Vincent Drive Recreation Area.

managers understand their roles and responsibilities under the Federal Employment Compensation Act, OWCP's timeliness submission requirements, and the importance of reducing workers' compensation costs," a prepared release said.

Labor law symposium

The North Alabama Chapter of the Federal Bar Association presents its second annual Personnel/Labor Law Symposium on April 14 at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel. Speakers include Merit Systems Protection Board administrative judges, an Equal Employment Opportunity Commission administrative judge, an assistant U.S. attorney, an attorney from Maxwell Air Force Base and a local practitioner. Application for six hours of Alabama and Tennessee Continuing Legal Education credit has been made. Managers, employees, human resource professionals, union officials and attorneys are the focus audience. For more information, call 544-0024.

Research section

Redstone Arsenal-Huntsville Military Operations Research Section will hold its monthly luncheon March 30 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Huntsville Hilton. Dr. Shoumen Datta, executive director of the

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Photo by Kim Mason

Springing forth

Everything seems to come out of hibernation with the arrival of springtime and warm weather. People spend more time outdoors, grass starts growing and flowers bloom. Sunny Friday afternoons paint a landscape like this at the corner of Aerobee Road and Vincent Drive.

MIT Forum for Supply Chain Innovation, is to speak on adaptive value networks in supply chain management. The meeting is open to the public and free of charge. A buffet lunch will be available for a nominal fee. For information call Ed Poniatowski 876-8605.

Project management institute

North Alabama Chapter of the Project Management Institute is sponsoring a Project Management Professional Exam Workshop beginning Saturday and continuing through May 1 (except April 10). Sessions will be held in the classroom building at Athens State University; and online registration is available at www.pmi-nac.org/pmpcourse. For information call Connie Wallace, vice president for certification, 864-7224.

NCO call

All non-commissioned officers – active and retired, National Guard and Reserves – are invited to join post Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Lunn on March 26 from 5-7 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club.

Airborne association

The Vulcan Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Division Association meets on the third Saturday of each month; and the next meeting is this Satur-

day. Membership is open to anyone who is airborne qualified, as well as anyone who has served in a unit assigned or attached to the 82nd Airborne Division. Anyone interested in the association or attending the meetings can call Barry Simpson 533-3000 or Dennis Camp 883-7488.

Field artillery group

The North Alabama Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Field Artillery Association will hold its quarterly business meeting April 2 from 4:30-7 p.m. at Firehouse Pub, building 114 on Hankins Road. Food and drink will be provided for members, prospective members and their invited guests. For more information, call Ed Poniatowski 876-8605.

Federally employed women

Thursday's meeting of the North Alabama Chapter of Federally Employed Women will focus on Training and Career Advancement and provide information on the Individual Development Plan and training available at Redstone. Scheduled speakers are Connie Hanaford, training analyst at SMDC, and Nancy Hodges from the AMCOM Learning Resource Center. The meeting starts at 11:15 a.m. Thursday in the Regimental Room of the Officers and Civilians Club. The buffet line will be used for

lunch. To reserve a seat, e-mail Margaret.lipsey@us.army.mil.



Miscellaneous

Reserve unit

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal is looking for prior active duty Soldiers who want to return to duty, or Soldiers who wish to transfer from other Reserve /National Guard units with a specialty of 74B information systems operators, and 75B/H unit administration. For 74B, the unit will consider reclassification/waiver action to 74B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the following computer skills: data base management, PC programming languages, networking/systems administration and telecommunications skills. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the character and personal qualifications to pass a SBI Investigation check to obtain a top secret clearance required by the specialty. Specialties 74C and 74F are now authorized to convert to 74B as well. For MOS 75B/H, you must be

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MOS-Q prior service or transfer from another unit. For information call Charles Vartan 876-0604 (work) or 883-8891 (home).

Civilian deployment

Civilian employees are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions overseas. Deployment opportunities exist in Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, engineers, operations officers, logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Gleria Edwards 313-3867. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Business scholarships

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter, International Association of Administrative Professionals will present two \$1,000 annual scholarship awards to a local high school and college student majoring in a business field. Merit awards may apply toward tuition, books and fees for undergraduate or graduate level studies. Deadline for applications is March 31. For more information, call Jackie Kenner 876-8131.

Surplus sales

Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales web site. To bid on this property, go to www.gsaauctions.gov. For more information, call 544-4667.

Aerospace scholarship

The Air Force Association, Tennessee Valley Chapter, will present a \$1,000 scholarship to an Air Force Junior ROTC cadet, cadet in the Civil Air Patrol, dependent of active duty or retired Air Force personnel, dependent of Air National Guard or Air Force Reserve personnel, or dependent of an active duty member of another service (Army, Navy, or Marine Corps). Applicants must pursue a full course load toward an aerospace technology associate degree at Calhoun Community College. This scholarship will be for the 2004-05 school year and will be broken into \$500 awards to the school for each semester attended. Candidates may apply until May 1. For more information, call Terry Roop (256) 230-0396 after 6 p.m. or e-mail at TLRoop@charter.net.

Warrant officer scholarships

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Warrant Officer Association will present two \$1,000 scholarship awards in 2004. Eligible participants include dependent or adopted children/stepchildren of military (active, retired, National Guard or Reserve) and DoD civilian residing in the

Tennessee Valley. Applicants must be high school seniors or college freshmen. Deadline to apply is May 1. To download a packet and application form, go to www.redstonewarrants.com.

Tax assistance center

The Redstone Arsenal Tax Assistance Center is open until April 15 in building 3489 at the corner of Ajax Road and Zeus Road. It provides free tax preparation and electronic filing services to active duty and retired military and their dependents. The center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. by appointment only, and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5-7 for walk-in services. For an appointment, call 842-1040.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Tuesday 9-5 and Wednesday and Thursday 9-4. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9-12:30. Appointments are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:30-3. Donations are accepted, and tax slips are available. For more information, call 881-6992.

Bookkeeper job

There's an opening for a bookkeeper at the Thrift Shop. The salary is \$4,200 annually for about 10 hours per week. Applicants should have a thorough knowledge of Quick Books financial program and be proficient in bookkeeping procedures. Applications are available during business hours at the Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road. The deadline is April 1. For information call Isabel Boicourt 881-6992.

Donation requests

The Thrift Shop is accepting written requests for donations. It can only accept requests from charitable organizations that have a federal tax exemption number. The deadline is March 31. Include your federal tax number and why you want a donation with your request letter to: Thrift Shop, Attention Mary McCarthy, building 3209 on Hercules Road, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898.

Redstone motorcycle training

Experienced Riders Motorcycle Training is conducted at the Rocket Harley-Davidson Dealership off I-565 and Greenbrier Road. Soldiers, DoD civilians and military retirees are funded by the government. Contractors pay \$75 per person. For registration information, call Keith Coates 876-3383 or John Zuber 876-3114 of the Garrison Safety Office.

Continuing education

Oakwood College's Leadership Education for the Adult Professional bachelor's

degree classes will begin this spring at Redstone Arsenal. Pre-register from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 19-22 at the Education Center, building 3222 on Snooper Road. Earn your degree in 18 months. For more information, call 876-9761.

Weekend master's program

Nova Southeastern University will begin its spring-term master of business administration class in April. Classes are held on alternate weekends for 18 months in Huntsville. An information meeting is 6 p.m. Thursday at Calhoun Community College, conference room 101-E, 102 Wynn Drive. For information call Bill Spade 800-672-7223, ext. 5046, or Bruce Pieper (256) 227-7899.

Quarterly retirement event

The next Quarterly Retirement Ceremony is April 20 at 4 p.m. at Heiser Hall. All military personnel who are scheduled to retire within the next 3-6 months are encouraged to participate by calling Sarah Brazzel 313-0546. Deadline for signing up is March 23.

Chili cookoff

Want to prove you have Redstone Arsenal's best chili? Come be a part of the second annual Redstone MWR community-wide Chili Cookoff, Thursday from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, right after the quarterly FACTS meeting. Team participation (limit five persons) is allowed, \$10 per team or single entry and participants must make two gallons of chili for judging. Three prizes will be awarded. Go to www.redstonemwr.com for rules. Beginning March 1, call 830-2582 or 876-4531 to register.

Contractor open house

The Joint Venture Yulista and Science and Engineering Services announces an Open House for any potential subcontractors interested in providing engineering or technical support to the Prototype Integration Facility. JVYS has an existing contract to provide support, but additional subcontractor support may be required in the future. The open house will be at the Science and Engineering Services office, 4015 Pulaski Pike, on April 14 from 8 a.m. to noon. Potential subcontractors should bring any brochures or information that describes their capabilities. For more information, call Darrell Harrison 876-5099.

Civilian of year dinner

The Association of the U.S. Army, Redstone-Huntsville Chapter, will sponsor the Department of the Army Civilian of the Year Award and Dinner, March 30 at 7 p.m. at the Von Braun Center, South Hall.

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This award and dinner recognizes local DA civilians who have demonstrated exceptional performance as members of the Army team. Tickets can be purchased through the Huntsville Association of Technical Societies at <http://www.team-sweek.org/>, or directly from the AUSA event coordinator Jerry Hamilton, at A.Hamilton@TBE.com or 726-1033. The outstanding civilians will be nominated by their commands or agencies early in March. The chapter nominee selected from the local nominees goes on to compete for the AUSA Southeast Region competition in the summer. The region winners are recognized nationally at the AUSA Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. in October. Information on nominations has been provided to local commanders and executives.

Chapel fund-raiser

Catholic Chapel Youth will prepare fish dinners (for carry out or eat in) each Friday in March from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at building 50 on Bomford. Each dinner will include fried catfish, baked beans, cole slaw or potato salad and hush puppies. Beverages will be available free of charge for those who eat in. Suggested donation is \$6. Your donation will be used to finance expenses for youth to attend World Youth Day in Cologne, Germany in 2005. For more information, call Inger Frye 726-9323.

Panoply volunteers

The Army Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter, Community Projects Committee is supporting Panoply 2004 by providing volunteers to help with this community arts festival April 23-25 in Big Spring Park. Volunteers are needed in various areas such as helping in the children's activities, selling Buffalo Rock-Pepsi products, selling Panoply novelty items in one of the Panoply Stores, or welcoming the many visitors to the park at one of the entrance gates. The public hours for Panoply are April 23 from 5-10 p.m., April 24 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and April 25 from noon to 8 p.m. The shifts for volunteers are two hours long with many time slots still available. For more information or to volunteer call Eura Reaves, co-chairman of ASMC Community Projects Committee, 955-8222.

Professional development

The Huntsville-Madison County Chapter of Blacks in Government will conduct its annual Professional Development Seminar on March 25 at the Holiday Inn/Research Park. The theme is "Achieving Excellence Through Professional Development"; and the guest speaker is Mayor Marcia Glenn from Lithonia, Ga. There will be workshops throughout the

day. For more information, call Ollie Parham 313-9895 or Bee Holloway 313-9607.

Ribbons for sale

Magnetic yellow ribbons are on sale at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. The ribbons will also be on sale at building 5302 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. today and March 24. The 8-inch magnets are available for a \$5 donation to Army Emergency Relief. Call 876-5397 for more information on this fund-raising project sponsored by the ACS volunteers. Cash or checks made out to Army Emergency Relief are accepted.

Historical site preservation

The Huntsville City Council last November approved the William Hooper Council Alumni Association's and project manager Kenneth Gurley's plan to save the historical site of the old William Hooper Council High School, next to the Huntsville/Madison County Public Library. The plan needs citizen participation to succeed, according to Gurley. The membership goal is 7,000; and the tax-deductible membership fee is \$10. For information call the office 746-1343 or go to the web site www.whcaa.org.

Bingo night

Waiting Spouses will have bingo March 27 from 6-10 p.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338. "If you're a geographically separated spouse then please plan to join us," a prepared release said. "Bring your favorite finger food; soft drinks will be provided." For more information, call Kristi Foster of Army Community Service 876-5397.

Digital combat exercise

A Digital Combat Exercise will take place during the third annual Southeastern Software Engineering Conference, March 29-31 at the Von Braun Center. The conference is part of the Huntsville Association of Technical Societies TEAMS Week. "A cyber battle will take place between attackers and defenders, each using their own computer networks," a prepared release said. The Digital Combat Exercise is sponsored by security professionals from Tele-dyne Solutions, Information Engineering, local chapter of ISSA, Dynetics, University of Alabama-Huntsville, and Cisco Systems. For more information, visit www.ndia-tvc.org/SESEC.

Army family team building

Help others learn to cope with the challenges of a military lifestyle by becoming an AFTB instructor. After one year of active service with the program, you qualify for additional training provided by the

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ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS
REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

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